

**The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi):** (a) Yes.

(b) By the middle of June, 1962.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** If the award is likely to be out by the middle of June, may I know whether it is likely to be discussed in this House in this particular session, as the session will continue up to the end of June?

**Shri Hathi:** We have been told that they will be able to finalise the report by the 15th May 1962. So, we hope to receive it soon, later on, and if time permits, we can discuss it in the House. That depends upon the House.

#### **Proposed Closure of Titagar Jute Mill**

**\*249. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Titagar Jute Mill No. 1 was applied for permission to close down;

(b) if not, what are its new proposals for production;

(c) whether it has any effect on employment position of its workers; and

(d) what has been Government's reaction to the proposals?

**The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) It has been ascertained that no communication for the closing down of the Mill has so far been received by the Government of West Bengal.

(b) to (d): Do not arise.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Do we take it that the Titagar Jute Mill No. 1 has not sent any intimation whatever of its intention to close down to the Central Government?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** So far no intimation has come to us, but for the information of the hon. Member I may say that informally we have come to know that they are likely to

approach us. So far, there was no formal approach.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** May I know whether Government has made any enquiries as to the mills that have been permitted to be telescoped with the firm understanding that there will be no further unemployment, in view of the fact that most of the jute workers continue to be temporary workers and within a short period they are retrenched and the total labour force has come down by thousands?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** I can assure the hon. House that under the working time agreement there is no retrenchment except natural wastage. Besides that, the hon. Member has raised many other inter-linked questions. I can say that so far no jute mill has closed down which may cause either loss of production or loss of employment.

**Shri Priya Gupta:** May I know whether under the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act the closing down of the mills *ex parte* without consultation with the labour representatives tantamounts to lock-out and whether lock-out is allowed under the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** This question is on the basis of many assumptions. Firstly, it has not approached us for closure. The working time agreement with the Indian Jute Mills Association has worked well for the last many years. Every time a closure proposed, it has to be approved both by the Central and State Government and it is approved on the condition that there is no displacement of labour, the working time is sold out to other mills, employment continues and production continues.

#### **'Enemy Firms' and 'Enemy Property'**

**\*250. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government still accords recognition to the terms